

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FBO-02 A-01 ARAE-00 SY-05 /019 W

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P 171545Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5480

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, A/FBO, PN, ASEC

SUBJECT: NEED TO EFFECT SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS AT CHANCERY,
PROPERTY NO. 01132

REF: PANAMA 6042

EXTENSIVE DAMAGE SUSTAINED BY EMBASSY RESULTING FROM STUDENT
DEMONSTRATION OF SEPTEMBER 23, AS REPORTED REFTEL, AND THE
CONTINUING UNREST DISPLAYED BY RADICAL STUDENT GROUPS RE CANAL
NEGOTIATIONS MAKE DESIRABLE EARLY ACTION TO EFFECT SECURITY
IMPROVEMENTS FOR PROTECTION PROPERTY AND PERSONNEL OF EMBASSY.
ALTHOUGH A NEW OVERALL SECURITY SURVEY NOW BEING PREPARED BY RSO,
PRUDENCY MAKES DESIRABLE OUR PROCEEDING SOONEST WITH FOLLOWING
IMPROVEMENTS:

1) CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF WOODEN-FRAMED METAL MESH
SCREENS (16 GAUGE 1/2" EXPANSION WIDTH, GALVANIZED) FOR 126 CHANCERY
WINDOWS OF VARIOUS SIZES. THE SCREENS WOULD BE AFFIXED IN A
MANNER WHICH WOULD PERMIT EASY INSTALLATION AND REMOVAL AND WOULD
AFFORD CONSIDERABLE PROTECTION TO PERSONNEL AND WINDOWS FROM STONES
AND MOLOTOV COCKTAILS, ITEMS UTILIZED BY DEMONSTRATORS AT EMBASSY
ON SEPTEMBER 23. ESTIMATED COST \$4500.

2) THE INTRODUCTION OF MOLOTOVCOCKTAILS INTO STUDENT WEAPONS
AND USED AT EMBASSY FOR FIRST TIME ON SEPTEMBER 23, REQUIRES
ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL FIRE EXTINGUISHERS. PURCHASE OF
TWENTY-SIX 6.4 POUND MULTI-PURPOSE TYPE EXTINGUISHERS FROM
PAN CANAL COMPANY AT \$26.47 EACH OR TOTAL COST OF \$692 WOULD

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PROVIDE GREATER FIRE PROTECTION AT EMBASSY, COM RESIDENCE,

LEASED STAFF APARTMENT AND RMO OFFICE (LATTER TWO BUILDINGS
LOCATED ACROSS STREET FROM CHANCERY).

3) TO ENABLE ACTIONS PROPOSED IN 1 AND 2 TO BE IMPLEMENTED SOONEST,
EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT A SPECIAL ONE-TIME ALLOTMENT OF \$5192
BE GRANTED ON A PRIORITY BASIS. PROPOSED EXPENDITURES CONSIDERED
JUSTIFIABLE IN TERMS OF PROTECTION OF USG PROPERTY AND PERSONNEL.

4) PLEASE INFORM.
JORDEN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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